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MEMORANDUM

December 16, 1955

To : Members, Working Group on Economic Defense Policy and Planning

From : Chairman, Working Group on Economic Defense Policy and Planning

Subject: Assignment of Problem Concerning Emergency Action Steps—
Economic Warfare

The Chairman of EDAC has requested through the Chairman of the Working Group that the Working Group undertake an assignment to develop a set of emergency action steps in the field of economic warfare. The functions for which these emergency action steps are to be developed are given as:

- "1. Develop and administer economic warfare denial programs
- "2. Establish export controls and develop international trade controls"

If the Working Group in its review should find other items which also would be logically related to these functions, it is understood that they should be included in the Working Group's consideration.

By way of illustration and clarification, it has been suggested that the set of "emergency action steps" to be developed should be those which will (1) break these functions into logical units, (2) identify them briefly from the standpoint of someone knowing little or nothing about them as a basis for taking prescribed actions, (3) develop a set of action steps to be taken immediately in case of national emergency giving instructions as precisely as possible, again assuming that someone may be required to take action who has little basic knowledge of the function, and (4) draft actual documents to be used in implementing the action steps such as drafts of cablegrams to be sent to someone, drafts of Executive Orders if more authority may be necessary, outlines of urgent telephone calls to be made, etc., etc. Certain basic assumptions will have to be made defining the extent to which the several agencies would take responsibility for the full implementation of each of the emergency action steps, although consideration may also be given to the possibility of delegations of authority for such action.

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